

December 08, 2003

Project 184 Weekly Update
Website: www.project184.org

Summary of Environmental Planning and Compliance Activities
For Project 184
Week Ending December 05, 2003

South Fork American River Diversion Dam

Mead & Hunt was contacted this week regarding its plans to perform the third and final post-construction riverbed survey for assessing sediment transport in the vicinity of the dam in accordance with USFS 4(e) conditions.

Mill to Bull Tunnel

The District transmitted a written request to the USFS this week for a one-year extension to the USFS Special Use Permit (SUP) for the Mill to Bull Tunnel and Canal Bench Restoration Project activities. The current SUP expires February 2004 and one additional year is needed for limited work on certain associated facilities (e.g., Bull Portal Spill 20 and Mill Creek diversion bore hole), salvage transport (e.g., wooden flume relocation from USFS staging areas), and re-vegetation (e.g., reforestation of USFS salvage staging areas) tasks that could not be completed during the 2003 construction season.

EN2 Resources consulted with Regional Water Quality Control Board staff (Kyle Ericson, Susan Kelly, and Jacque Kelley) and assisted District staff to clarify the status and payment requirements for open storm water construction and waste discharge requirements permits issued to the District for Mill to Bull Tunnel and other Project 184 related activities.

Canal Bench Restoration Project

Kristin Schaeffer coordinated with John Abercrombie this week to identify the telemetry system to be installed for monitoring Mill Creek flows in accordance with the Relicensing Settlement Agreement. The telemetry system will be installed as part of the Mill Creek Diversion Modification (Bore Hole) Project to interconnect the District's Mill Creek water rights with the newly constructed Mill to Bull Tunnel.

Camp 2 Area Road, Rock Wall, and Deer Fencing Activities

Dave Buel provided Karen Quidachay a field review of the Camp 2 Shortcut Road restoration, Camp 2 road surface slide, vandalized historic rock wall, and deer fencing maintenance work areas scheduled for summer 2004. Due to the proximity of the shortcut road to recorded historic properties and Plum Creek, because the vandalized rock wall is a National Register-eligible property on USFS lands, and because the replacement deer fencing includes areas where historic rock walls are potentially buried, the District is required to consult with the USFS, State Office of Historic Preservation, and other agencies, and may also need to secure certain permits, prior to implementing the work

next summer. EN2 Resources will be providing a proposed scope of work to assist the District with the necessary agency reviews and permits.

Powerhouse Water Quality Monitoring

EN2 Resources conducted water quality monitoring of the South Fork American River on December 2 and 4. For December 4, sampling included monitoring associated with Spill 42 releases to repair flume boards that failed during dynamic testing of the canal/flume system on December 3.

Echo Conduit System Repairs

By letter dated November 19, District General Counsel responded to an October 29 Tahoe Rim Trail Association letter requesting a bridge crossing for the Echo Conduit system. The District confirmed its commitment to install a crossing consistent with the Project 184 Relicensing Settlement Agreement. The crossing will be planned, permitted, and constructed as part of the Conduit System Repairs Project.

SWPPP measures are in place and inspections are being performed as required.

Powerhouse Update:

Both Units #1 & Unit # 2 have been operating daily now since November 12, 2003 while EID crews perform further testing and adjustments. Beginning December 1st through December 9th the powerhouse will be operating 24 hours a day, while Flumes and MBT are tested for full canal flows.

Canal

The flows in the canal were increased between December 1st through 8th, to maximum flow levels while we commence dynamic flume testing, and Power Generation. The canal was being patrolled on a daily basis and there have been no major problems found which would prevent the canal to be filled to its capacity. SCADA was being manned 24 hours a day to insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal.

Today Dec. 8th the canal is being shut off for the dewatering and inspection of the El Dorado and Mill-Bull Tunnel. At that time minor repairs will be made in several areas of the canal.

This week the lining boards on Spillway #44 will be replaced; during the testing there was minor leakage in the spillway.

Work will be done on the air system for the fish screen on the Diversion Dam. During the testing some minor problems were found and will require repairs with the canal dewatered.

The residence houses located on the canal have been filled by Camp #5 Hydro employees which will insure the reliable and safe operation of the canal.

The Bull Portal dewatering pump rewiring is completed and will be tested this week when the tunnel is dewatered.

A drill rig was flown into the area between Flumes #6 & 7. Horizontal drains are being installed to relieve the water pressure against the canal section. EID plans on commencing this work November 19, 2003, and should be completed by December 19th.

A letter has been sent to Sierra Pacific Industries requesting permission to install a gate on the access road into Flumes 39 & 40. The work on repairing the slide is processing and the replacing of the generator has taken place. It was noted that there was several stringers that were rotted under the flume and decided to replace them while the crew was in the area. The repairs were done last week and the access will be water bared for the winter.

Echo Lake

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

Caples Lake

The flashboards have been removed from the spillway and the facilities have been winterized.

Silver Lake

The radial gates are fully opened, the flashboards removed for winter and the facilities have been winterized.

Lake Aloha

Lake Aloha is shut down for the winter, which is the normal operating pattern.

A visit was made October 29, 2003 to Lake Aloha.

Staff 5.64 = 29.5 AF

**Listed below are the Projects readings for December 8, 2003,
Taken from SCADA:**

	Staff	Ac. Ft.	Draft
Echo Lake	.40	1.26	0
Echo Conduit	0		0
Echo Creek	1.74		17.1
Caples Lake	44.06	12,280	9.59 cfs
Silver Lake	5.90	1,641	38.8
Pyramid Creek	0	0	

There is 0 cfs @ A-11cfs being released into the canal at Intake and 119.1 cfs flowing in the South Fork of the American River at Intake.

A-17 Forebay Storage $3797.2 = 297$ AF

A-18 EID Irrigation Usage is $.09 = .985$ cfs.

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